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Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 26 | Min 21 | Humidity 85% Light rain Sensex 81,757 | Nifty 24,968 | Gold 98,007 | Silver 1,12,997 | Dollar 86.09 | Euro 100.43 | GBP 115.93

CITY LIGHTS

Big decisions: B-Khata properties to get legal status, Occupancy Certificate rules eased for small sites, five new civic bodies to decentralise governance

PAGE 2

BULLY BRIGADE

Some resident welfare association groups in city latch on to recent observation by SC bench to encourage harassment of dog caregivers and feeders

PAGE 3

Survey among lake volunteers associated with Kere Mitra initiative reveals most issues reported by them are either unattended to or addressed only days later, but BBMP says these problems crop up after resolution

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A feedback-based survey of BBMP's Kere Mitra project at many city lakes has highlighted that a majority of the issues reported by these volunteers are either getting no response from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) or responses are delayed.

The survey obtained feedback from 52 Kere Mitras across 35 lakes in the south and east zones of Bengaluru. While 44% of the volunteers said that they did not receive any response from BBMP following issues raised by them, 28% said the response was delayed by more than seven days.

A wide range of issues were raised by Kere Mitras, including cleanliness, security, entry of sewage, fencing, garbage, etc.

The majority of the volunteers, 53%, also feel that the programme is not being effectively implemented and has had no impact on the overall condition of the lake.

> **"Although some improvements have been noted in areas like cleanliness, fencing, and increased public engagement at certain lakes, these developments are limited and uneven across the city**
>
> — Raghavendra B Pachhapur of ActionAid Association

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

Dangerous bus ahead

BMTC buses under scrutiny after fatal Peenya crash and rash driving incidents

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After a fatal crash involving a Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) bus on Friday, the spotlight is back on the often rash public transport.

The accident occurred in Peenya, leaving one dead and four others injured, according to preliminary reports. BMTC officials said the investigation has revealed that the conductor, who had taken the wheels in the driver's absence, lost control and crashed into the canteen where several pedestrians were present around 8.45 am while the bus was operating on its Majestic-to-Peenya route. The bus swerved off the road and crashed into the canteen.

According to media sources, driver Dilip had left the keys in the electric bus, as removing them would automatically shut the doors, risking suffocation for passengers. He then stepped away for tea. During his absence, conductor Ramesh, who was issuing tickets to passengers, noticed another bus leaving from the spot in front of theirs. Allegedly attempting to move the bus into the vacant space, Ramesh lost control of the vehicle and crashed into a nearby canteen.

A woman identified as Suma, who was standing nearby sustained severe injuries and was immediately taken to Lakshmi Hospital, where she later succumbed despite medical efforts. The other four injured victims were admitted to various hospitals

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 >>

THINGS TO DO

01 Poetry unplugged

Immerse yourself in the magic of poetry at the 9th Bengaluru Poetry Festival. From powerful performances and global voices to music, film, and verse, experience poetry like never before. Featuring legends, rising stars, and a special children's lineup. Entry is free. **Where: Sangeetha Sabha Purandara Bhavana; When: August 2, 3, 10.30 am to 8 pm**

02 Print & pour

Unleash your creativity or spark your child's imagination with two unique experiences this July! Try your hand at linocut printing over coffee, or dive into a dino-themed sensory play date with LooRoo Club, complete with a delicious breakfast. **Where: Maverick & Farmer; When: July 25, 6:30 pm– 8:30 pm**

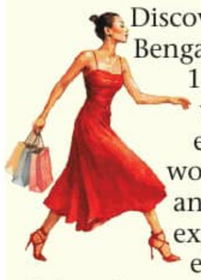
03 Brush legacy

Join art historian Yamini Telkar for an engaging online session exploring the life and legacy of Jamini Roy. Discover how his folk-inspired style and bold brushwork redefined modern Indian art. Streamed live on social media — don't miss this journey into colour, culture, and creative expression! **Where: National Gallery of Modern Art; When: July 26, 5 pm**

04 Epic evenings

Discover shades, a vibrant group art exhibition curated by The Chromatic Confluence. Experience powerful expressions of creativity, emotion, and imagination by diverse artists. Explore unique perspectives and bold visions. Let every shade tell a story through the soulful lens of talented creators. **Where: IIWC gallery, Basavanagudi; When: July 27– August 5**

05 Empower bazaar



Discover FLO Santé 2025 by FICCI FLO Bengaluru — a one-day celebration of 130+ women-led brands in fashion, wellness, lifestyle, and food. Enjoy expert sessions, a Shivan & Narresh workshop, wedding edit, live music, and more. Empowerment meets experience at this vibrant, free-entry event. **Where: Anantya, Gate 9, Palace Grounds; When: July 18, 9 am to 9 pm**

Three major urban reforms for B'luru

B-Khata properties to get legal status, OC rules eased for small sites, five new civic bodies to decentralise city's governance

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In a significant reform push that will impact lakhs of Bengaluru residents, the Karnataka government has announced three major decisions this week. The Cabinet has approved legal recognition for B-Khata properties, exempted smaller plots from the need to obtain Occupancy Certificates (OC) and Completion Certificates (CC), and cleared the formation of five new municipal corporations within the BBMP limits. These decisions aim to streamline urban governance, reduce citizen grievances, and make home ownership more accessible and hassle-free.

Legal status for B-Khata

After years of ambiguity surrounding B-Khata properties issued by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), the state Cabinet has decided to grant legal status to such properties through either A-Khata or a lawful, valid record. The decision applies to all B-Khatas issued by BBMP between 2009 and September 30, 2024.

Srikumar, an activist, said, "This move is expected to benefit thousands of homeowners who were denied access to basic amenities like power, water, and sewerage connections due to the lack of legal documentation. We hope the government will soon issue a formal notification outlining the process and applicable fees. This decision will address long-standing problems related to map approvals, OCs, and CCs. It is a major step towards regularising property ownership in Greater Bengaluru." According to the Cabinet, B-Khatas issued based on government orders and circulars will be considered for A-Khata status. Others will be recognised as valid under legal provisions, thereby offering equal rights to homeowners who had earlier been left in a legal grey zone.

OC and CC no longer mandatory

In another major decision that brings relief to lakhs of small site owners, the Urban Development Department has decided to do away with the mandatory requirement of Occupancy Certificates and Completion Certificates for plots measuring 30x40 ft (1,200 sq ft) or smaller. This comes in the wake of practical challenges faced by homeowners in securing electricity connections for newly constructed houses. The Supreme Court had earlier ruled that no utility connections should be granted without OC and CC, leading to power supply authorities insisting on the documents. However, the process was marred by bureaucratic delays and inspection backlogs, especially affecting owners of small sites.

"Homeowners were made to run from pillar to post. Local officials were overburdened, and the process was turning punitive for ordinary citizens," said an advocate welcoming the decision. The new exemption is seen as a pro-people move that balances legal enforcement with on-ground practicality. However, the exemption will not apply to plots larger than 1,200 sq ft, for which the mandatory OC/CC norm will continue.

5 corporations for better governance

The third major announcement from the Cabinet is the formation of five municipal corporations in the Greater Bengaluru area—Bengaluru North, South, East, West, and Central. The move follows the recommendations of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, headed by MLA Rizwan Arshad, which noted that Bengaluru's massive urban sprawl can no longer be managed effectively by a single administrative body.

By decentralising BBMP's functions into smaller, more focused corporations, the government hopes to improve efficiency, citizen service delivery, and urban planning. The final decision on boundaries, ward limits, and population division will be taken in consultation with local elected representatives. "This is a major structural reform that will change how Bengaluru is governed," said an official in the Urban Development Department.

What do these decisions mean for Bengalureans

Anitha B, a civic expert, said, "For property owners, especially those who have long battled bureaucratic limbo over B-Khatas or electricity for new homes, the decisions offer long-awaited relief."

Unique ID for Anganwadi children

Karnataka is set to become the first state in the country to implement the Centre's APAAR (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry) ID system for Anganwadi children. The 12-digit ID will simplify school admissions across India and help track a child's academic progress. It will assist in issuing transfer certificates, verifying prior learning, and identifying school dropouts under the 'One Nation, One Student ID' initiative. The APAAR ID will be issued through the Poshan Tracker app once a child is enrolled in an Anganwadi.

The ID will remain valid throughout the student's academic journey, from early education to higher studies. It will store key education-related details and prove useful during transfers, entrance exams, skill training, or job applications. Parents must provide basic documents such as Aadhaar, birth certificate, and contact details during enrollment. Officials say this initiative ensures transparency, accountability, and seamless access to academic records nationwide. **— BMB**

Seat intake rejected, Karnataka loses 201 MBBS seats

National Medical Commission (NMC) has slashed 201 MBBS seats from Karnataka's medical colleges for the 2025–26 academic year, as it did not approve seat intake increases proposed by two institutions. This move has come as a disappointment to both aspiring students and college administrators who were hoping for an expansion in seat availability.

According to the seat matrix released recently, Karnataka will now have 12,194 MBBS seats from 70 medical colleges, down from 12,395 seats across 71 colleges in 2024–25. Belagavi's Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College (JNMC), under KLE University, had applied for a 200-seat increase, while another college in Chitradurga sought one additional seat. Both requests were denied, resulting in the 201-seat shortfall.

Seat Break-Up for 2025–26

This year, **12,914** seats have been allocated from **71 colleges:**

All India Quota (AIQ) – **572 seats**

Deemed Universities – **2,224 seats**

ESI Quota – **135 seats**

State Quota – **5,275 seats**

For CET counselling, a total of **9,263** seats are available, slightly down from **9,282** last year — a drop of **19** seats.

Corruption allegation impacts approval

Sources indicate that a bribery case involving a doctor who allegedly accepted Rs.10 lakh to submit a favourable report for JNMC may have influenced the NMC's decision. The doctor was later arrested by the CBI, following which NMC opted not to approve any intake increase for JNMC to maintain transparency. Not just JNMC, even older colleges and proposed new institutions were denied permission for intake expansion.

Government reacts to NMC observations

"NMC released the seat matrix late at night. We're still reviewing it. Due to infrastructure deficiencies, the seats we requested were not approved. All data will be verified and submitted to KEA (Karnataka Examinations Authority)," said Mohammad Mohsin, Principal Secretary, Department of Medical Education. Earlier, NMC had flagged infrastructure gaps in 22 government medical colleges and issued notices. Approvals were granted only after the state government assured corrective measures through a formal letter.

Delay in matrix impacts counselling

The delay in releasing the seat matrix has also significantly pushed back the start of the CET counselling process, causing concern among thousands of aspirants waiting for clarity. **— BMB**

Identical bomb threats cause panic across over 40 schools

Bengaluru witnessed widespread panic on Friday morning after nearly 40 schools reported receiving bomb threat emails, all of which turned out to be hoaxes.

Police said an identical email, sent at 7.24 am with the subject line "Bombs inside the school," claimed that several explosives had been planted inside classrooms. "The explosives are skillfully hidden, in black plastic bags," the message read.

Alarmed authorities in multiple schools promptly informed police. Bomb disposal squads, dog squads, and anti-sabotage teams were rushed to the campuses. Students and staff were evacuated as a precautionary measure. No suspicious objects were found in any of the institutions.

Bengaluru Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh stated that all schools were evacuated, and thorough physical searches were underway at each location. He added that the operation was expected to continue throughout the day, with 12 dedicated police teams deployed to carry out the inspections.

The message in the mail stated, " I will erase every last one of you from this world, not a single soul will survive. I will gladly laugh when I watch the news, only to see the parents show up at the school and to be greeted by cold, dismembered bodies of their children."

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, speaking in Mysuru, said, "I have asked officials to verify whether it was a hoax. We are bringing a law against fake news, false information, and instigation." Meanwhile, more than 20 schools in Delhi also received similar bomb threats, adding to the nationwide tension among students and parents. **–BMB**

Tailspin! SC remark ruffles feeder pack

Courtroom comment in stray dog feeding case fuels backlash in Bengaluru, with RWAs targeting caregivers; BBMP, legal experts say ABC 2023 still permits responsible feeding

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A recent 'observation' by a Supreme Court bench during proceedings of a case about alleged harassment of a community dog feeder in Noida has sent some dissenters of the cause into frenzy.

Media articles highlighting the remark made by the SC bench, suggesting community dog feeders to feed stray dogs at their homes, are being shared in some resident welfare association groups in the city, leading to harassment of caregivers and feeders.

Usha M, a resident of JP Nagar IIIrd Phase, says news articles are being shared on the resident welfare group of her society, isolating caregivers and causing emotional stress.

"The last two days have been traumatising. News articles have been posted on our RWA group since Wednesday. There are only a handful of animal caregivers and feeders in society. We feed responsibly and have also got them vaccinated and neutered, as per ABC rules. However, residents in the group are making statements such as 'this road belongs to humans and not dogs' and 'feeders should not be allowed on the road'," said Usha.

Community animal feeders from other parts of the city, such as Domlur and Yelahanka, have also raised similar concerns.

Harini Raghavan of Citizens for Animal Birth Control, and also a community animal feeder, says over the last two days, she has not only been helping other distressed caregivers overcome harassment, but is also facing the issue herself.

"I have been dousing fires everywhere over the last two days. Many media outlets have carried sensational headlines based on the observation made by one SC. Many online forums are rife with unreasonable comments about dogs and feeders, bordering on mental harassment. I wish people would be more sensible, if not inclusive," lamented Raghavan.

Lawyers with expertise in animal law say that such judicial observations are not binding orders and should not be sensationalised by the media or public, as judges are human and may express reactions in the charged atmosphere of a courtroom. The focus should be on the court's final orders, not on passing remarks.

> **Last 2 days have been traumatising. There are only handful of animal feeders in society. We feed responsibly and have also got them neutered, as per ABC rules** –Usha M, resident

The observation made by the SC bench does not mean that the existing rules around dog feeding or managing community animals have changed. Judicial observations are not binding orders and should not be taken out of context or blown out of proportion.

"The observation was made by a judge in the sanctity of his courtroom, but it was blown out of proportion by some media outlets. Such reactions put a lot of pressure on the judiciary. We need to stop reacting to every statement, which is are human reaction made by SC judges. The atmosphere in courtrooms is charged, and judges sometimes give human reactions. ABC rule, allowing feeders to feed community animals responsibly, has not changed," said Shreya Paropkari, an advocate who practices animal law.

According to animal law experts, the Animal Birth Control Rule of 2023 promotes collective responsibility for feeding and managing street animals and ensures that the charitable action does not become a source of community conflict.

"The evolution of the ABC rule from 2001 to 2023 reflects the need for comprehensive and uniform stray dog population management. The 2023 rules, a scientific way to control the stray dog population, address monitoring, conflict resolution, and responsible community animal care. It is the final court orders, not offhand remarks, which should be the focus for policy and public response," said another lawyer with expertise in animal law. Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) said that any harassment of anyone in this regard will be dealt with as per existing rules and regulations.

"As I gather from media reports, it was a remark by one of the judges while hearing a case, and it seems it is not an order. People must not read the remark out of context. As long as feeding is happening responsibly and in a designated spot, it is permissible under the Animal Birth Control Rule, 2023," said Suralkar Vikas Kishor, Special Commissioner, BBMP's Animal Husbandry Department.

Linguistic slur ends in arrest

A Bengali man, Mithun Sarkar, was arrested by Bommanahalli Police on Thursday for hurling abuses at a delivery executive and making derogatory remarks about Karnataka and Kannadigas over a phone call.

The incident occurred on July 17, around 9:30 am, when Ranjith, a delivery boy, contacted Sarkar to confirm the address for a T-shirt delivery in Begur, Bommanahalli. During the conversation, Sarkar reportedly launched into an abusive tirade, insulting the Kannada language and people of Karnataka. He allegedly said, "We are 70% Hindi in Karnataka… Kannadigas don't even have ₹10 to buy tomatoes… the entire Karnataka is idiots, " He further challenged, "Record my call, take my number and meet me if you can."

Offended by the remarks, Ranjith recorded the conversation and filed a complaint with the Bommanahalli Police. The Karnataka Rakshana Vedike also demanded strict action against Sarkar for hurting the sentiments of Kannadigas and creating linguistic enmity. **–BMB**

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CRUISING IN THE RAIN

Tips to keep your vehicle monsoon-ready

As monsoons bring much-needed relief from scorching summers, they also pose serious challenges for vehicle owners. From slippery roads to waterlogged streets, vehicles often face wear and tear that goes unnoticed until it leads to a breakdown. Auto experts and mechanics across Bengaluru are now urging motorists to take proactive steps to keep their vehicles healthy during the rainy season.

Tyre check is a must

Slippery roads are the biggest hazard during monsoon, and tyre condition plays a vital role in ensuring road grip.

"Bald tyres are extremely risky during rain. You must ensure there's adequate tread depth—at least 2mm—to avoid skidding," says Nagesh R., a tyre specialist at a service centre in Koramangala. He adds that tyre pressure should also be checked weekly, as cold weather often leads to underinflated tyres, reducing control and increasing fuel consumption.

Wipers and windshield care

Visibility is often compromised in heavy rain, and wipers become your first line of defence.

"Check if your wiper blades are streaking or squeaking. If yes, replace them immediately," says mechanic Mahesh Babu from Jayanagar. "Windshield washer fluid should also be topped up with a solution that contains anti-fog and water-repelling agents." He warns that many vehicle owners neglect this and suffer poor visibility when driving through downpours.

"Ensure headlights, tail lights, brake lights, and turn indicators are working. Replace broken or dim bulbs. Adding reflective stickers on bikes or older cars can also help increase visibility –Shalini Kumar, technician

Brake system needs close attention

"During monsoon, moisture can affect the braking system—especially drum brakes," explains Sumanth M., a senior technician at an authorised service centre. "Get your brake pads and discs checked, and ensure the brake fluid is at the correct level." Mechanics recommend applying the brakes lightly after passing through waterlogged areas to help them dry out.

Battery and electricals

"Water can seep into connectors, causing short circuits or starting issues. Always ensure battery terminals are clean and the battery is securely mounted," says Vinay R, an automobile electrician in Banashankari. He advises coating electrical terminals with petroleum jelly to prevent corrosion.

Keep the undercarriage clean

Water mixed with mud and debris can damage the undercarriage and lead to rust. "Wash the underbody regularly and apply anti-rust coating if needed," says Manjunath P, a mechanic at a multi-brand service centre in Rajajinagar. "This simple step can add years to your car's life."

Lights and indicators matter

In low-visibility weather, functioning lights are crucial. "Ensure headlights, tail lights, brake lights, and turn indicators are in working condition. Replace broken or dim bulbs immediately," says Shalini Kumar, a technician at a car accessories store near Indiranagar. "Adding reflective stickers on bikes or older cars can also help increase visibility."

Emergency kit and insurance

Last but not least, an emergency kit and valid insurance can make a big difference in critical situations. "Carry a flashlight, jumper cables, tyre inflator, and a tow rope. And keep a copy of your insurance handy," advises auto consultant Ravi Shetty. He suggests opting for monsoon-specific add-ons like engine protection cover and roadside assistance. While monsoon weather is unpredictable, your vehicle's health doesn't have to be. With a few preventive checks and regular maintenance, motorists can avoid expensive repairs and dangerous breakdowns. As Nagesh R puts it, "A few minutes of attention can save you hours stranded in the rain."

– BMB

Stay safe behind the wheel

Driving during rainy days can be tricky and dangerous. Reduced visibility, slippery roads, and unexpected waterlogging make it essential for motorists to be extra cautious. With Bengaluru witnessing heavy downpours in recent days, traffic police and road safety experts are urging drivers to adopt a set of essential precautions to ensure their safety and the safety of others on the road.

Reduce speed and drive smoothly

One of the most important rules during wet weather is to slow down. "Rain reduces tyre grip and increases braking distance. So drive slower than usual and avoid sudden acceleration or braking," says a traffic Inspector. Jerky movements can lead to skidding, especially on roads covered with oil, muck, or moss. Maintaining a steady speed and using lower gears while going uphill or downhill can provide better control.

Maintain safe distance

Tailgating during rain is a recipe for disaster. "Always maintain at least a 3-second distance from the vehicle in front. This gives you enough time to react if the other driver suddenly brakes," advises Rakesh R., a certified driving instructor. On wet roads, stopping distances can be double what they are in dry conditions.

Use headlights and indicators properly

Visibility is often poor during heavy showers, and it's important to ensure other drivers can see you. "Always turn on your low-beam headlights, even during daytime rain. Avoid using high beams as they can reflect off the water and blind other drivers," says auto consultant Priya Shetty. She also stresses the importance of using turn indicators well in advance to communicate clearly with other road users.

Avoid waterlogged areas

Driving through flooded streets can cause serious vehicle damage. "If you can't gauge the depth of the water, don't risk it. Water can enter the engine or damage the exhaust system," warns Arun Prasad, a senior car technician. If driving through water is unavoidable, go slowly in first gear without stopping and avoid sudden acceleration.

Watch for pedestrians and two-wheelers

Visibility is low not just for drivers, but for pedestrians and two-wheeler riders as well. "Be extra cautious near bus stops, schools, and crowded crossings. Two-wheeler riders often swerve to avoid puddles and potholes, so keep a safe distance," says Inspector Rajesh.

Defog windows and use wipers efficiently

Interior fogging and rain-blurred windshields reduce visibility drastically. "Use your car's defogger or set the AC to the right temperature to prevent fog buildup on windows. Ensure your wipers are in good condition and working efficiently," advises Vinay K., an automobile service engineer.

Stay alert and avoid distractions

During the rains, road conditions change rapidly, making it vital for drivers to stay alert.

"Avoid mobile use, loud music, or any distraction. Keep both hands on the wheel and eyes on the road," says Rakesh R. Monsoon driving demands patience, awareness, and vehicle readiness. By slowing down, maintaining distance, and avoiding flooded roads, drivers can prevent most rain-related accidents. As a traffic Inspector sums up, "The key is to respect the road and the weather. A few extra minutes can mean a safer journey home."

– BMB

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Urban hustle meets rural calm in Bengaluru

Weekend farming is emerging as a popular escape, helping city dwellers de-stress, grow food, and reconnect with nature one seed at a time

In a city known for traffic jams, tech jobs, and a relentless urban pace, an increasing number of Bengalureans are turning to an unexpected stress-buster—farming. Once a niche hobby, weekend farming has evolved into a full-blown wellness trend embraced by IT professionals, entrepreneurs, homemakers, and even retirees. The idea is simple: escape the city every weekend, roll up your sleeves, dig into the soil, and return refreshed—both mentally and emotionally.

Reconnecting with nature

For many, weekend farming is a nostalgic return to childhood memories of their native villages. For others, it's a new and grounding experience—touching the soil, growing food, and watching life take root. "I work as a software engineer all week, staring at screens and chasing deadlines. But when I step into my farm near Kanakapura Road on Saturdays, it feels like therapy," says Manjunath R, a techie who bought a small plot through a weekend farming community. "Sowing seeds and watching them grow gives me a kind of joy no gadget ever can." Participants engage in sowing, weeding, harvesting, composting, and even animal care—without the pressure of full-time farming.

A growing community

The popularity of weekend farming has spurred the growth of organised community farms and agri-tourism ventures around Bengaluru. Areas like Devanahalli, Kanakapura, Doddaballapur, and Nelamangala now host several weekend farming projects where individuals can rent or co-own plots, guided by professional farmers and agriculturists. "We started our farm with just four families. Today, over 50 families spend their weekends here. Interest has soared post-COVID, as people realised the value of clean food, fresh air, and digital detox," says a co-founder of a community farm near Bannerghatta.

Many of these farms offer organic farming techniques, rainwater harvesting, zero-waste composting, and native seed preservation—educating urbanites while offering them peace of mind.

Mental and physical wellness

Farming is no longer just a pastime—it's becoming a proven stress-relief activity. Studies show that spending time in nature, especially through physical activities like farming or gardening, lowers cortisol levels and boosts mood. "There's a meditative rhythm in working with plants. Watching something grow under your care brings deep satisfaction," says Dr Rupa Hegde, a techie who recommends weekend farming to combat burnout and anxiety. It's also an effective way to get families, especially children, off screens and into nature. Parents increasingly value teaching kids where their food truly comes from.

From hobby to lifestyle

For some Bengalureans, weekend farming has grown from a hobby into a lifestyle. They've begun incorporating home gardening, composting, and sustainable practices into their city homes, inspired by their weekend experiences. With rising interest, developers are now promoting "farm plots" alongside villas and resorts, offering a balanced life between city living and rural simplicity.

–Prakash VL

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Property market gains investor confidence again

In an era of volatile markets and economic uncertainty, one asset remains resilient—real estate. From first-time buyers to seasoned investors, property is increasingly seen as a reliable, long-term investment. Real estate has long been valued as a tangible asset that appreciates over time. In India, growing urbanisation, improved infrastructure, and rising disposable incomes are driving sustained demand and boosting investor confidence.

For Bengaluru-based software engineer Shruthi Rao, buying her first apartment wasn't just about owning a home—it was about securing her future. "I looked at mutual funds and stocks, but nothing gave me the kind of peace of mind real estate did," she says. "Even if prices fluctuate in the short term, property always gains value over time." Property developers echo this sentiment. Rajiv Mehta, a city-based builder known for mid-segment and luxury projects, believes real estate remains one of the most stable long-term investments. "Unlike equity or gold, real estate not only appreciates in value but also provides consistent rental income," he explains. "We've seen clients buying second or third homes purely for investment purposes."

In cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Pune, the boom in IT and startup culture has driven a surge in property demand. This trend is further supported by government initiatives like PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana), RERA reforms, and increased investment in infrastructure. Real estate also offers a strong emotional and cultural sense of security. "Land is still seen as a family asset in Indian households—something we pass on to the next generation," says Anil Kumar, a retired banker and proud owner of a plot on the outskirts of Mysuru. "I bought it 10 years ago for ₹5 lakh. Today, it's worth ₹40 lakh. No other investment delivered that kind of growth."

With rental yields of 2–4% and strong appreciation potential in suburban pockets, many millennials are entering the real estate market early. Investors are also exploring tier-2 cities for better returns. However, experts urge caution. "Check legal status, RERA registration, builder track record, and infrastructure plans," says consultant Anusha Nair. "A wise choice can outperform traditional investments."

For NRIs and global investors, Indian real estate remains appealing due to favourable exchange rates and emotional ties to the homeland. Even post-pandemic, the housing market shows resilience. A Knight Frank report notes a 21% year-on-year rise in housing sales in Q1 2025, reflecting strong buyer confidence in long-term, tangible property investments. **BMB**

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All payment modes taxed, clarifies GST department

Tax department clarifies GST is mandatory above turnover limits, regardless of payment method; angry small traders call statewide bandh, alleging arbitrary tax action

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In the wake of several traders discontinuing the use of digital payment gateways citing concerns over GST implications, the Commercial Taxes Department has issued a clarification. It stated that Goods and Services Tax (GST) is applicable on all types of transactions—be it cash, UPI, bank transfers, or card payments.

GST mandatory if annual turnover crosses threshold

According to Rule 220 of the CGST Act, 2017, traders supplying goods with an annual turnover exceeding ₹40 lakh or services exceeding ₹20 lakh must mandatorily register under GST. The department clarified that this includes all transaction modes, including cash and digital forms. Officials stated that both taxable and exempted goods and services are counted towards total turnover. However, tax liability applies only to taxable goods and services. Registered traders can claim input tax credit on GST paid for purchases against tax payable on sales.

Confused about GST notices? We're here to help!

The recent notices issued by the Commercial Tax Department have sparked confusion among many traders, especially regarding GST registration and digital payment compliance.

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Tax liability applies only to taxable goods and services. Registered traders can claim input tax credit on GST paid for purchases against tax payable on sales

Department to continue issuing notices

The tax department has resumed issuing notices to traders who exceed turnover thresholds but have not registered under GST. It clarified that collecting tax at 1% is not burdensome and that the law does not allow discrimination in tax collection based on transaction type.

Digital payment systems are merely a medium, the department said, and tax liability applies irrespective of whether transactions are digital or in cash. Appropriate action will be taken to collect due taxes from such traders.

Statewide bandh on July 23–24

Protesting the GST notices, small traders across Karnataka have called for a statewide bandh on July 23 and 24. They claim the notices were issued without prior intimation and that even small shops with annual turnovers of ₹2–10 lakh are being asked to pay lakhs in taxes. Traders have warned of an intensified protest across the state against what they call arbitrary government action.

Caring for lakes proves uphill task

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lack of support and coordination from the authorities, no or poor response from BBMP officials, lack of updates or transparency on progress, timelines, or budgets, and passive agreement instead of active citizen engagement are some of the challenges that Kere Mitras have experienced. Inadequate budget allocation, lack of accountability, slow restoration work, and poor grievance redressal systems were also highlighted.

"As per the responses collected, Kere Mitras feel that they are not heard and are neglected by both BBMP officials and maintenance contractors. The lack of timely action and poor communication with officials has led to frustration among many.

Although some improvements have been noted in areas like cleanliness, fencing, and increased public engagement at certain lakes, these developments are limited and uneven across the city," said Raghavendra B Pachhapur of ActionAid Association, a city-based NGO that has conducted the survey.

No monitoring

Volunteers also shared that issues like encroachments, sewage inflow, and illegal dumping continue due to a lack of enforcement and regular monitoring. The survey was conducted to assess the effectiveness of the Kere Mitra program and to understand the experiences and challenges that the volunteers face while managing the lakes.

According to BBMP's Lake Division, Kere Mitras can raise or report issues through multiple mechanisms, such as on WhatsApp through phone calls, on the BBMP helpline number (1533), and through the Saahaya app. These issues are given due attention, and it is inappropriate to say that there has been no response.

"We take feedback to improve our service, but saying that there is no response from the officials is incorrect. Kere Mitras are there to help us. Most of the issues listed in the survey are daily issues. Even when resolved, they again crop up. Further, Kere Mitras are responsible for daily maintenance and not for long-term issues like sewage inflow, fencing, or garbage. In many cases, people and NGOs also do not have an understanding of different agencies responsible for different aspects of lake maintenance," said Preeti Gehlot, Special Commissioner, BBMP Lake Division. She added that, unfortunately, there is no way to measure the amount of effort and money being put in by BBMP in maintaining lakes.

While issues highlighted by Kere Mitras are aplenty, an overwhelming majority of the volunteers expressed interest in continuing as Kere Mitras to preserve the lake. However, they say the number of Kere Mitras and their tenure period should be increased. A minimum of four to six members should be part of every lake for effective lake conservation and protection, and tenure needs to be extended to six to 12 months.

"We have submitted the report to the BBMP Chief Commissioner, hoping for on-ground improvement in the project implementation," added Pachhapur. The survey was conducted by ActionAid Association with the support of students from PES University and St. Joseph's College of Law, along with Oxford Social Work.

Bank employee ends life after recording video blaming colleagues

A 25-year-old bank employee died by suicide on Friday morning after recording a video in which he allegedly blamed two of his colleagues for pushing him into betting. The incident occurred within the RR Nagar police station limits.

The deceased, identified as Manoj Kumar, a resident of RR Nagar, worked at a private bank. According to police, around 9.30 am, after his family members had left for work, Kumar died by suicide. Before taking the extreme step, he recorded a video message and sent it to his family. Shocked after watching the video, they immediately alerted neighbours and police. However, Kumar was found dead when they reached his residence. His body has been sent for postmortem examination.

In the video, Kumar expressed deep regret for hurting his parents and stated that he was ending his life due to alleged harassment by two colleagues—Ravindra K from the personal loan department and Mahesh from the gold loan department. He claimed that despite living a simple life, they pressured him into betting, promising quick earnings, and even lent him money at 10% interest.

RR Nagar police have registered a case under Section 107 (abetment of suicide) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and are investigating the matter. **— BMB**

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Drain chaos

Bellahalli

At an apartment on 3rd Cross Road, Markandeya Nagar in Bellahalli, rainwater and sewage overflow during showers, causing two-wheelers to frequently get stuck. Despite repeated concerns from tax-paying residents, the BBMP has failed to take action.

Abandoned vehicle

Nagarabhavi

An abandoned car on the crucial bridge between Teachers Layout and NGEF Layout in Nagarabhavi is disrupting traffic flow and posing a safety risk, especially at night. Authorities are yet to take any action.

Footpath encroachment

Cox Town

An illegal platform on the footpath near Gover Road, Cox Town is being used as a poultry stall, blocking visibility and endangering pedestrians. Parked vehicles worsen the problem. Urgent BBMP and police action needed.

X Corp case

Chilling effect on free speech can't be sole defence: Centre

X is arguing against government take-down orders

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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The Central government presented arguments before the Karnataka High Court on Friday, stating that reasonable restrictions under Article 19(2) of the Constitution regarding Freedom of Speech must adapt to the expanding scope of Article 19(1)(a) in the current technological era.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre, stated that 'chilling effect' on free speech cannot be the sole defence against reasonable restrictions. The SG presented arguments in response to X Corp's petition seeking clarification on Section 79(3)(b) of the IT Act regarding information blocking orders and their relationship with Section 69A procedures.

X had contended that takedown orders under Section 79(3)(b) create a deterrent effect for its users. The SG countered with two points: firstly, that chilling effect cannot justify disseminating societally harmful content, and secondly, that X lacks standing to claim chilling effect on behalf of users.

The SG questioned X's platform status, noting that as a mere notice board for others' opinions, their free speech claims were questionable. He referenced the Anuradha Bhasin case where the Supreme Court expressed scepticism about expanding the chilling effect doctrine.

He emphasised that Article 19(2) restrictions must evolve alongside expanding rights, citing the Cricket Association of Bengal case regarding societal interests. He argued that reasonable restrictions should be flexible to address contemporary challenges.

Fake site demo

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta demonstrated to the High Court a verified but fake account named 'Supreme Court of Karnataka' on platform X, highlighting social media misuse concerns.

The SG stated, "We have opened one account in the name of 'Supreme Court of Karnataka' and Twitter (X) has opened that account and it is a verified account by Twitter (X). Now I can post anything in that and lakhs and lakhs of people who view that and will say that Supreme Court of Karnataka has said this...and I can remain anonymous." This presentation occurred during Centre's opposition to X Corp's petition challenging government takedown directives under IT Act Section 79(3)(b).

The SG referenced the Central government's Shreya Singhal case submissions, noting how internet users become unregulated publishers, making privacy invasion straightforward. When the SG presented the fake account to Justice M Nagaprassana, Senior Advocate KG Raghavan, representing X, objected strongly to the demonstration. The SG clarified the account remained unused, serving only as a demonstration. The Court assured that this illustration wouldn't prejudice X's case. Justice Nagaprasanna referenced the Proton Mail case's anonymity issues, discussing derogatory content distribution.

Monsoon session of Assembly from Aug 11 to 22

The monsoon session of the Karnataka legislature will be held for nine days between August 11 and 22 at the Vidhana Soudha here.

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has summoned the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and Council to meet in Bengaluru at 11 AM on August 11, the official notifications said.

The opposition may seek to corner the government on a host of issues, including its handling of the RCB victory celebrations that led to loss of lives due to stampede, the government taking up a new caste census, alleged discrepancies in the survey that was held to provide internal reservation among Scheduled Castes, and alleged communal killings in coastal districts, among others.

Several key Bills, including the Karnataka Crowd Control (Managing Crowd at Events and Venues of Mass Gathering) Bill, 2025; Karnataka Rohith Vemula Bill, 2025; Karnataka misinformation, fake news prohibition Bill, 2025; Karnataka hate speech and hate crimes prevention Bill, 2025, are likely to be tabled during the upcoming session.

The session has come amid rumblings within both ruling Congress and opposition BJP over the leadership issue. While there is speculation about the chief minister change in the Congress, the BJP is faced with a factional rift over the continuation of B Y Vijayendra as the party's state unit president. **–PTI**

Murder case: Activist files plaint against cops

A social activist, Venkatachalapathy KP, has filed a complaint addressed to the Inspector General and Director General of Police, demanding the registration of a criminal case against senior police officers and KR Puram MLA Bairathi Basavaraj in connection with the murder of Shivaprakash VG.

In his representation, Venkatachalapathy alleged that despite Shivaprakash lodging a prior complaint on February 18, 2025, fearing for his life and naming the MLA and other anti-social elements, the police failed to take appropriate preventive action. Shivaprakash was subsequently murdered on July 15. The complaint specifically accuses DCP East Devaraj, Pulikeshi Nagar ACP Geetha CR, Bharathi Nagar Police Inspector Govindraju, Banaswadi ACP Umashankar, and Ramamurthy Nagar Inspector Rajashekar of dereliction of duty, claiming the officers ignored repeated pleas for protection.**BMB**

State to protect 317 heritage monuments

The State Department of Archaeology, Museums, and Heritage has identified 317 historical structures—including temples and other monuments—to be declared as protected sites. The department aims to safeguard structures dating back to the Neolithic period that have been neglected and are at risk of being lost. Deputy Commissioners across districts have been directed to submit proposals for the protection of these unprotected heritage sites. In the first phase, 200 structures will be taken up for conservation, followed by 117 in the second phase. As of the end of May, 119 proposals had been received, with 198 more still awaited, according to officials. **–BMB**

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FARNAZ

Passenger safety is our priority: BMTC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

two at Maruthi Hospital and the remaining two at Shiva Venkateshwara Hospital for treatment.

Police from Peenya Traffic Station, along with BMTC officials, inspected the scene shortly after the mishap. A case has been registered, and investigations are in progress. BMTC officals have suspended Dileep and Ramesh has been removed from his duty.

It's also learned that, in this tragic incident, over 50 passengers on the bus had a narrow escape. Moments after the bus crashed into the hotel, a cylinder sparked a fire, but bystanders quickly extinguished it, preventing a greater disaster at the scene.

In an official statement by BMTC officials said, "Passenger and public safety remain our top priority. We are ensuring all necessary medical care for the injured. Our deepest condolences go out to the family of the deceased, and we pray for their strength during this difficult time."

Despite repeated awareness drives by the traffic police aimed at curbing rash driving and enforcing road safety protocols, reports of BMTC buses being driven recklessly continue to surface. This tragic incident has put BMTC under intense scrutiny as concerns mount over a spate of recent accidents involving its fleet.

On July 2, a schoolboy sustained critical injuries in Jigani, near Anekal, when he was struck by a BMTC bus while attempting to cross the road to catch his school bus. Witnesses claim the driver failed to slow down or stop despite noticing the child, leading to the accident.

In another case from May 23, a BMTC driver allegedly attempted to run over a young woman near Chinnaswamy Stadium following an argument. Dashcam footage from a nearby vehicle, which recently went viral, shows the woman standing in front of the bus trying to prevent it from leaving.

The driver recklessly advanced the bus, narrowly missing her. She escaped with minor injuries, but the incident has intensified calls for stronger oversight of BMTC's operations.

Prajwal rape case: Court reserves verdict

The Special Court for People's Representatives has completed the trial in one of the four rape cases filed against former Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna and on Friday reserved its verdict for July 30.

This particular case, considered crucial, stems from a complaint lodged by a domestic worker from Holenarasipura in Hassan district.

Revanna remains in judicial custody in connection with the case, which was investigated by a Special Investigation Team (SIT) and later handed over to the CID. Inspector Shobha led the probe and submitted a detailed chargesheet, recording the statements of 26 witnesses.

During the trial, the court examined Revanna and all 26 witnesses. Both the prosecution and defence presented their arguments based on the contents of the chargesheet.

The Special Public Prosecutor argued that the evidence clearly implicated the accused, while Revanna's legal team sought bail and attempted to counter the prosecution's claims.

However, bail has remained elusive for Revanna. His earlier applications were dismissed by the local court, the Karnataka High Court, and the Supreme Court. **PTI**

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I, JANCY.K W/o. Kunjumon Residing at 1323/7, PMK Road, Ramesh Road, T. Dasarhalli, Bangalore -560057 declare and undertake that in my son documents/records like SSLC certificate & PUC certificate wrongly entered as JANCY correct name is JANCY. K only. vide affidavit dated: 06.05.2025 Sworn before notary: Anitha Bai, Bangalore

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WE, Vikas Sharma and Simron Kaushal R/at 106, SRS White Pearl Kithaganur Main Road, K R Puram Bangalore 560036 wish to change name of our minor daughter from Winnie Kaushal to Veronica Kaushal in front of Notary K V Mani Bangalore video affidavit dtd 17th July 2025.

I UMME HUZMA REHAMAN W/O, Mohammed Peer R/o No 21 1st Cross 3rd Main Bhuvaneshwari Nagar R T Nagar Post Bengaluru 560032 have changed my name to Umme Huzma for all purposes.

I, HEMLATHA KUMARI Alias HEMLATHA Alias HEMLATA Alias HEMALATHA S Alias HEMLATHA JAIN, R/O 42/1, 1st Main , 16th Cross, S R Nagar, Bangalore-560027, Have changed my name to HEMLATHA KUMARI, vide affidavit dated 17/06/2025 sworn before Notary Mamatha N.K Bangalore

I, RT RAMESH Alias RAMESH, R/O #L126, 5th Main, 8th Cross, Lakshminarayanapuram, Near Narasimhaswamy Temple, Sriram puram,Bangalore-560021, Have changed my name to RT RAMESH, vide affidavit dated 17/07/2025 sworn before Notary Mamatha N.K Bangalore

I, Kiran Devi Sohan Sankhla w/o Sohan Rugaramji Sankhla R/o 45/71, 6th Main, Sarvabhowma Nagar Chikkalsandra, B'luru 560061 have changed my name to Kiran devi Affidavit Dt.18/07 /2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Anuradha Perumareddy W/O, Venkata Subba Reddy Polamreddy R/o 295, 8th Main, 4th Cross, Dollars Colony, Jp Nagar 4th Phase, Bangalore - 560078 have changed my name to Anuradha Polamreddy.

I, Hariram Radhakrishnan S/O, B. Radhakrishnan R/o 7th Cross, Vidyaranya Pura No. 4, Gurudarshan Layout have changed my name to Hariram Radhakrishnan Mulkvana for all purposes

I, Raghvendra S/o Dundappa R/o No 555, Vijay Nagar Colory, Jamkhandi,bagalkot 587301 have changed my name to Raghavendra for all purposes.

I, PRADEEP B K, Father of B P SAANVI, residing at 19/1, 1st Main 4th Cross, Byatarayanapura, Bangalore – 560026 have changed my minor daughter's name to SAANVI PRADEEP, vide affidavit dated 17/07/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I Nixon Lajarasa S/O, Lazarus R/o No 3 Situated At 5th Cross 1st Main Road, S K Garden Benson Town, Bengaluru - 560046 have changed my name to Nixon.

I, H Shivanna S/o Hanumanthaiah R/o a10, 2nd crs, Vishwashanthi Nagar, Vajarahalli, Nelamangala, B'lore Rural 562123 changed my name as H Shivanna by replacing Shivanna H in all records for all purposes declared before Notary.

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HEALTH TIP: Pain in one breast that doesn't subside or has no clear cause should be explored further

A weekly deep conditioning treatment can change your hair's condition from dry and frizzy to soft and silky

ALL THAT GLITTERS...

Is your zari real or fake? Here's how to spot the difference instantly

Zari, the shimmering gold or silver thread that graces the borders of sarees and dupattas has long been a symbol of grandeur in Indian textiles. But in today's competitive market, not all that glitters is genuine. With lookalike imitations flooding the shelves, many buyers end up paying a premium for fake zari without even knowing it. So how can you tell the real from the replica? We asked Anil Sancheti, Partner at Mysore Saree Udyog, to break down the key differences between authentic zari and its synthetic cousins and here's all you need to know before you buy your next Kanjeevaram.

"Understanding the difference is vital and not just to protect one's investment, but to honour the artisans behind this timeless craft," says Anil.

According to him, true Zari known as Pure Zari is crafted using silk threads that are electroplated with copper, then wrapped with silver (between 15% to 92%) and finished with a coating of gold. "This traditional method gives Pure Zari its signature weight and soft, elegant sheen. Each strand speaks of meticulous skill and heritage."

In contrast, imitations like Tested Zari are mass-produced using plastic or lurex around inexpensive metals. "From afar, they may look convincing, but they don't have the same finesse or longevity," explains Sancheti. There's also Half Zari, or CSG Zari, which is made primarily with copper and has only a light coating of silver and gold more for looks than authenticity.

"True Zari isn't just about the glitter—it's about what lies beneath," Anil affirms. "Consumers deserve to know what they're paying for, and artisans deserve to have their legacy valued and preserved."

What Makes Zari Authentic?

Pure Zari is crafted using silk threads that are electroplated with copper, then wrapped with silver (ranging from 15% to 92%), and finally coated with gold. This laborious, traditional process produces Zari with a rich, soft sheen and a distinct weight. Each thread carries the legacy of skilled artisanship, making it not just decorative, but meaningful.

Tested Zari, on the other hand, is an imitation made from synthetic materials like plastic or lurex, wrapped around lower-cost metals. While it may appear similar from a distance, it lacks the durability, elegance, and heritage of pure Zari.

Half Zari (also known as CSG Zari), contains a high percentage of copper with minimal silver and gold coating—intended for visual appeal, but not true authenticity.

Key Differences: Pure Zari vs. Imitation

Materials Used: Pure Zari contains real metals—silver and gold—woven onto silk. Tested Zari substitutes these with plastic or low-grade electroplated wires.
Visual Appeal: Pure Zari shines with a soft, warm glow, while synthetic Zari often appears overly bright or metallic.
Weight: Authentic Zari is heavier due to its metal content. Lightweight Zari that looks intricate but feels insubstantial is likely synthetic.
Weaving Quality: Genuine Zari features tight, even weaving. Turn the fabric over—the back should be neat, without loose or messy threads.

Why Authenticity Matters

Zari is often the most valuable component of a traditional saree, especially in Kanjeevarams. Yet many consumers unknowingly pay premium prices for imitations. This highlights the need for increased awareness and education around textile authenticity. Beyond aesthetic appeal, authentic Zari garments carry intangible value honouring artisans, preserving heritage, and sustaining livelihoods.

Brands have a key role to play in this ecosystem. By ensuring transparency, providing certification, and educating customers on how to identify real Zari, they can rebuild trust in the marketplace. In turn, buyers should feel empowered to ask questions, seek product clarity, and learn the nuances that distinguish real craftsmanship.

Tips for Identifying Real Zari

Shine: Under natural light, genuine Zari exudes a soft, golden glow. Synthetic versions tend to shine too brightly or reflect light sharply.
Weight: Hold the fabric in your hand. Real Zari will feel slightly heavier due to the metallic threads.
Back of Fabric: Flip the garment. Authentic Zari should have a clean finish with no loose ends or fraying threads.
Testing: If unsure, reputable brands may offer Zari testing via specialised machines or lab verification.

—Femina

MIRRORLIGHTS

Study decodes eye contact for human-robot communication

The timing of eye contact is key to how we communicate with both humans and robots, revealed a study led by Australian researchers on Wednesday.

Researchers from Flinders University found that not just making eye contact, but when and how it's done, fundamentally shapes how we understand others, including robots, according to a statement from the HAVIC Lab (Human, Artificial + Virtual Interactive Cognition), Xinhua news agency reported.

"Our findings have helped to decode one of our most instinctive behaviours and how it can be used to build better connections, whether you're talking to a teammate, a robot, or someone who communicates differently," said cognitive neuroscientist Nathan Caruana, who led the HAVIC Lab.

In a study with 137 participants, researchers found that a specific gaze sequence -- looking at an object, making eye contact, then returning to the object -- was the most effective non-verbal way to signal a request for help.

Caruana said it's the context and sequence of eye movements, not just how often they occur, that make them meaningful, with participants responding similarly to humans and robots alike.

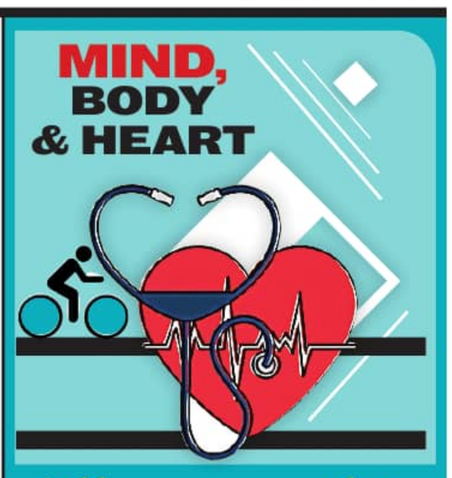
He said humans naturally respond to social cues, even from machines, and that understanding these signals can strengthen connections with both people and technology.

The study, published in the London-based Royal Society Open Science, suggests that adding human-like gaze to robots and virtual assistants could make them more intuitive and effective communicators.

Beyond robotics, the findings could enhance communication in high-stakes settings such as sports, defense, and noisy workplaces, and support those who rely on visual cues, including autistic or hearing-impaired individuals.

The HAVIC Lab is now exploring how factors like gaze duration, repetition, and beliefs about a partner's identity (human or AI-driven) affect eye contact perception, according to the team.

—IANS



All you need to know about...

Dogs' TV habits

How a dog watches TV
Dogs may have 'personalities' which guide their television viewing habits -- an anxious dog might respond more to cars or a doorbell sound, while an excitable one is more likely to follow on-screen objects, a study has found.

Dimensions
Researchers from Auburn University, US, also found that pet dogs may perceive two-dimensional objects on the TV screen in a manner similar to those in the three-dimensional environment. The results, published in the journal Scientific Reports, help understand a pet dog's internal, perceptual experience and may inform interventions taken towards their welfare.
"In practice, engagement with television could provide dogs with an enriching, meaningful experience," the authors wrote.

Reactions to objects on screen
About 650 dog owners responded to surveys after observing their dog's TV viewing habits.
Dogs' reactions to objects on-screen -- animals, non-animals and how much they were followed -- were assessed. Age range of the 453 dogs finally included in the analysis was two months to 16 years old.

Animal friendly
Dogs were found to be more likely to react to animals on-screen than to other stimuli, with about 45 per cent of the dogs (206) always responding to dog noises such as barking and howling.
The authors wrote, "Dogs who were more excitable were more likely to exhibit behaviours suggesting an expectation that the television stimulus exists in the 3D environment (i.e., follow behaviours)."
"Furthermore, dogs who displayed more fearful tendencies were more likely to respond to the non-animal stimuli (e.g., car, doorbell)," they wrote.

—PTI

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

LIZARD'S SILENT STARE

Our reader shares a striking image of a garden lizard frozen in a statue-like pose atop a hedge inside a park in Yelagiri. With sharp eyes locked onto its unseen prey, the reptile captures a moment of still intensity—highlighting the raw instincts and silent drama that unfold in the natural world around us.

The picture was clicked by reader **NJ Ravi Chander**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Ejipura flyover races ahead after delays, eyes March 2026 completion

Bengaluru's second-longest flyover gains pace, promising signal-free travel across seven traffic-choked junctions in the Koramangala–Inner Ring Road corridor

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

After years of delays and multiple contractor setbacks, the construction of Bengaluru's second-longest flyover from Ejipura Main Road–Inner Ring Road junction to Central Military Sadan is now gaining momentum. The long-stalled 2.38-km flyover, aimed at easing chronic traffic congestion along Koramangala's 100 Feet Main Road, is scheduled for completion by March 2026.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao recently inspected the segment casting yard in Sakalavara on Bannerghatta Road and stressed the importance of timely execution. He instructed officials and contractors to maintain the current pace of work and ensure that the project meets its deadline.

Progress on the project has picked up significantly. Out of the 762 precast segments required, 437 have already been installed. The remaining 325 segments are expected to be cast and fitted at a rate of 45 segments per month. Rao has directed that the casting and installation process be completed by the end of 2025 to ensure the March 2026 target remains achievable.

Site inspection stresses maintaining pace; segment casting targeted for completion by end of 2025

To minimise traffic disruption, work is being carried out during night hours—from 11pm to 5am. Currently, about 60% of the total project is complete. Pedestrian walkway construction is nearing completion, and asphalt laying beneath the flyover is underway.

The project faced significant setbacks in its early years. Initially awarded to Simplex Infrastructure, progress remained sluggish, with only 42.5% of the work completed over five years. Despite deadline extensions and a ₹2.5 crore penalty, the contractor failed to deliver. In March 2022, the Urban Development Department cancelled the tender, seized ₹10.16 crore in security deposit, and re-tendered the remaining work. Hyderabad-based BSCCPL Pvt. Ltd. was awarded the contract in the fourth tender call.

> **"Of 762 segments, 437 are installed; remaining 325 expected at 45 per month**
> – Maheshwar Rao , BBMP Chief Commissioner

The revised project cost now stands at ₹176.11 crore—₹48.02 crore more than the original estimate. Of this, the BBMP has released ₹52.08 crore to BSCCPL based on the progress achieved so far.

Land acquisition was another hurdle. Two parcels of land near St John's Hospital and Hostel measuring 5,999 sq. were essential for ramp construction. Officials said acquisition issues have been resolved through discussions with stakeholders, and ramp work on both the Madiwala–Ejipura and Sarjapur sides will begin shortly. Once completed, the flyover will allow signal-free travel across seven congested junctions in the Koramangala–Inner Ring Road corridor, easing traffic flow in one of Bengaluru's busiest stretches. Chief Engineer Dr Raghavendra Prasad confirmed that technical designs are finalised and that an execution roadmap is firmly in place.

DID YOU KNOW?

A private space mission carrying the first astronauts in over 40 years from India, Poland, and Hungary ended with a splashdown in the Pacific Ocean off Southern California on Tuesday. The SpaceX capsule undocked from the International Space Station (ISS) on Monday and returned to Earth less than 24 hours later. The mission, organized by Houston-based Axiom Space, lasted nearly three weeks. Axiom's Peggy Whitson, the most experienced US astronaut, commanded the flight, joined by India's Shubhanshu Shukla, Poland's Slawosz Uznanski-Wisniewski, and Hungary's Tibor Kapu. Each nation paid over $65 million for the mission. The astronauts carried out several scientific experiments while onboard the ISS and celebrated their cultural heritage. This marked the first time since the Soviet-era missions of the 1970s and '80s that these countries sent people to space. This was Axiom's fourth mission to the ISS since 2022, aligning with NASA's plan to commercialise space as it prepares to retire the current space station by 2030. — AP

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9591233247
Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

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PIB refutes reports claiming Bullet train won't run between Mumbai, Ahmedabad

Claim: Some reports falsely suggested that the indigenous Vande Bharat trains would replace Japanese bullet trains on the Mumbai–Ahmedabad route.
The Fact : The Ministry of Railways has not made any such replacement decision. The Mumbai–Ahmedabad corridor continues to be built with Japanese Shinkansen technology, and Japan plans to deploy its next-gen E10 trains, reaffirming bilateral cooperation and cutting-edge high-speed rail development.

The Press Information Bureau (PIB) on Monday said a section of news reports and social media posts made a misleading claim that the Japanese Bullet train will not operate between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

"Some articles and social media posts claim that the Ministry of Railways has decided to not run the Japanese bullet train on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad route," the PIB said on its X handle.

"This claim is misleading. The Railway Ministry has made no such decision. Work on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train corridor is progressing as per the planned schedule," it added.

The government conducted a fact check after a section of media reports said that instead of Japanese Bullet trains on this route, the ministry has decided to run the indigenous Vande Bharat trains.

"In the spirit of the strategic partnership between India and Japan, the Government of Japan has decided to introduce the next-generation E10 Shinkansen trains for this project," the PIB said.

It added, "The entire 508-kilometer corridor is being developed using Japanese Shinkansen technology, setting new benchmarks in speed, safety, and reliability."

India's First Bullet Train Project: At a Glance

Route: Mumbai to Ahmedabad
Total Length: 508 km
- Gujarat: 352 km
- Maharashtra: 156 km

Technology:
- Japanese Shinkansen technology
- E5 Shinkansen trains to be tested
- E10 Shinkansen trains (launching in Japan by 2030) planned for final operations

Timeline:
- Prototype trial: 2026
- Commercial operations: 2027

Progress:
- 310 km of viaduct already constructed

Key Features:
- High-speed (up to 320 kmph)
- Cutting-edge signalling and safety systems
- Enhanced speed, safety, and operational reliability

Future Expansion:
- European tech and Indian firms like ICF & BEML to co-develop 280 kmph trains
- Aiming for tech diversification beyond Japan

This flagship project redefines India's rail infrastructure with world-class high-speed connectivity.

Doubt & certainty — Tamannaah Bhatia offered a rare glimpse into her mindset—one she describes as a "figuring-it-out phase." She took to Instagram, offering a peek into her day-to-day life—blending work, creativity, and mindfulness

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COMFORTABLE IN HER SKIN

Khushi has refreshing take on beauty standards and going under the knife

Actress Khushi Kapoor has come into her own with films like Archies, Loveyapa and Nadaaniyan. The actress shared her experiences in an exclusive chat with us on her sister, her debut film Archies, and her take on industry debates.

Comparing her personality with Janhvi, Khushi highlighted her reserved nature. "Oh yes! I am more of a quiet person and not much of a talker," she confessed. She then recalled her nerves during her first on-set experience for Archies. "During the time of Archies, I was really very nervous and scared. But after that movie got over, immediately the nerves went away. Zoya (Akhtar) was an amazing team captain and taught me and the whole team everything, even the basics like catching the light, hitting the mark, etc. But I would admit that there was a lot of fear while shooting that film. Even though I have been a part of this industry, I have always been behind the scenes. As a kid, when I used to be on the sets with my mom and dad, I didn't bother to take any notes of the process..." said Khushi.

Addressing her openness about undergoing cosmetic procedures, Khushi, who is rumoured to have gone under the knife, stated, "Yes, I have changed my looks. But everyone thinks I have done some 10-20 things on myself. It is obviously not the case. I don't think going under the knife for your looks is such a big deal. For me, it is not okay to be dishonest with people around me about my looks. There are a lot of impressionable youngsters who follow us on the internet. Plus, if we don't do something about our looks, then it is a problem and people will judge you for your looks, and if we do something for ourselves, feeding your insecurities, then also people have a problem. People will say that why did she change herself and not stick to her original looks? So, you are not going to win either way. I am going to live my life the way I want to. Also, I was not born like this and all actor's groom themselves, and of course vanity is a large part of our life! I care about my looks, but haven't changed every single thing about my face. I don't want to set unrealistic standards of beauty and so I became open about the procedures I had done to look like this," said Khushi.

—Akash Wadhwa, ETimes

Gaana's Mid-Year Magicians: Regional stars steal the spotlight

As per data from Gaana, India's biggest subscription only music streaming platform, it is the regional stars who have stolen the spotlight in 2025 so far, with 63% of music subscribers are now coming from Tier 2 and 3 cities. Gaana's Mid-Year Magicians report points out that while Bollywood is evergreen, the most-streamed artists so far this year are no longer limited to the film music. Voices from Maharashtra, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, and Bihar are topping the charts.

One of the most remarkable success stories comes from Marathi artist Sanju Rathod, whose tracks Shaky and Gulabi Sadi emerged as breakout hits. Similarly, Masoom Sharma's Lofar became a national sensation, blending Haryanvi folk roots with a modern edge. Bhojpuri artist Shilpi Raj also continued her upward trajectory in 2025, with Bandookk proving irresistible to listeners. Sai Abhyyankar from the Tamil music circuit added depth to the mix, with his releases like Sithira Puthiri, Aasa Kooda, and Vizhi Veekura each finding dedicated fanbases. Among Hindi music veterans, Arijit Singh reaffirmed his emotional pull with Zamaana Lage and Tomake Chai Bolechhilem. Shreya Ghoshal demonstrated her linguistic range with a presence across Hindi, Telugu, and Tamil songs. Anirudh Ravichander kept his high-energy momentum going with Sawadeeka, Hridayam Lopala, and Dheema.

Meanwhile, the nostalgic return of SP Balasubrahmanyam's classics on the platform reflected a continued emotional connection with golden-era melodies.

Gripping tale of trust and betrayal

Ekka is Rohit Padaki's third movie as a director after Dayavittu Gamanisi and Ratnan Prapancha. Ekka is special because it is a complete entertainer while also conveying a much-needed message by showing the dangers of blindly signing on a blank piece of paper. The other takeaway is the importance of not associating with anti-social elements.

The director deserves a pat on the back for handling the megaphone with aplomb. The movie is relatable, especially to families that give value to love and emotions.

The movie begins with Muthu (Yuva Rajkumar) meeting Mallika (Sampada) in Varanasi. Mallika informs the police about Muthu and the police nab him after a chase. At this juncture, the director introduces a flashback narrating how Muthu was leading a happy life at Parvathipura and how he signs on a piece of paper to help his friend Ramesha, who desperately needed Rs 20 lakh. The financier gives Muthu a deadline to Muthu to repay the loan. Muthu comes to Bengaluru to work as a cab driver. He falls in love with Nandini (Sanjana Anand), the sister of Onte Seena, who is associated with anti-social elements. He happens to rescue Bhai (Atul Kulkarni), an underworld don. Circumstances lead to Muthu having to kill Onte Seena. You have to watch the movie to know what happens to Muthu and who Mallika is.

EKKA

3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Rohit Padaki
- **ACTORS** Ruva Rajkumar, Sanjana Anand, Sampada, Shruthi, Atul Kulkarni, Sadhu Kokila, Aditya,
- **Duration** 148 minutes
- **Certification** U/A

Yuva Rajkumar is at his best in action and dance scenes. His dialogue delivery and gestures are good. Sanjana Anand is convincing as a rough and tough girl who doesn't mind mouthing a few swear words. Sampada has acted well. It is not clear why the director chose Atul Kulkarni to play the don as his acting is disappointing. Aditya, Shruthi, Dr Soori, and Poornachandra Mysore provide good support.

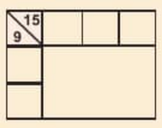
The songs are good and music by Charan Raj is lilting. Cinematographer Stya Hegde has done a good job behind the camera.

All in all this movie is a worth a watch.

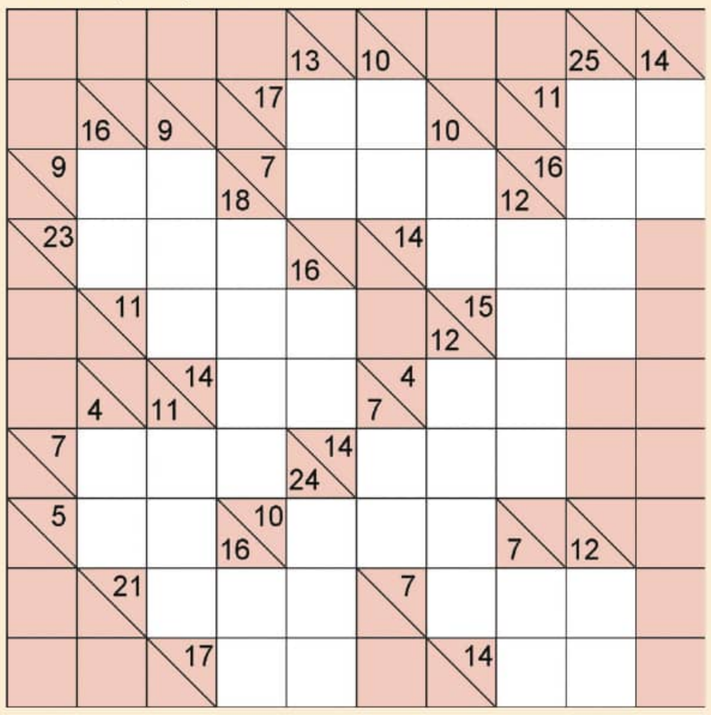
—Y Maheswara Reddy

Kakuro

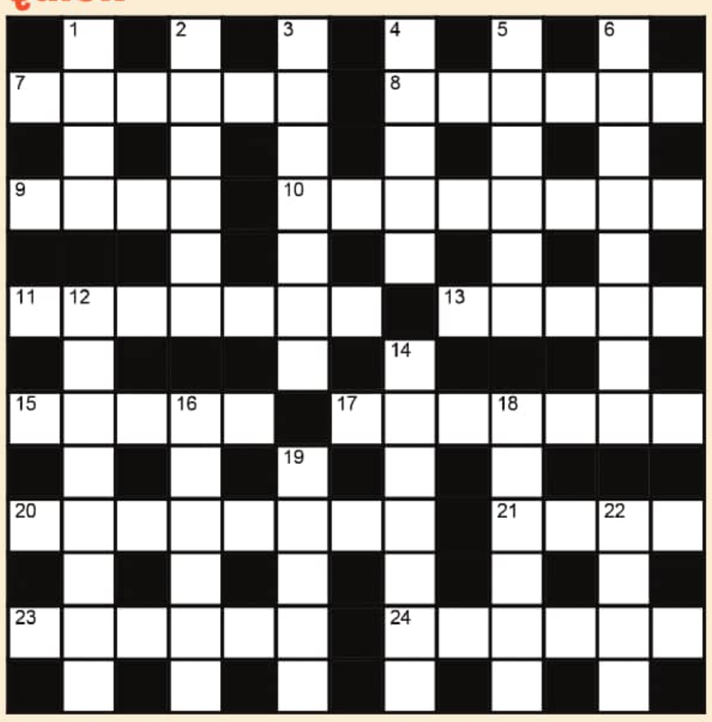
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Mogadishu resident (6)
8 Long musical notes (6)
9 Bard of Avon, abbr. (4)
10 Coming out (8)
11 Having a smell (7)
13 Professional cooks (5)
15 Active, spry and athletic (5)
17 Ecstatic delight (7)
20 Indian holy city (8)
21 Nimble (4)
23 Alludes, brings up or hints (6)
24 Lack of enthusiasm (6)

DOWN

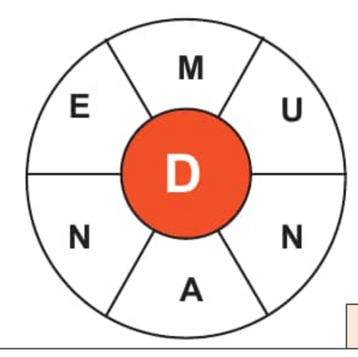
1 Together as a pair? (4)
2 Nosy ___ : a busybody? (6)
3 Mentally confused (5-2)
4 Monastery (5)
5 Duration or distance (6)
6 Aniston or Lawrence of Hollywood (8)
12 Belittles, casts down or cheapens (8)
14 Dynasty which ruled the Kingdom of Mysore from 1399 to 1947 (7)
16 Hired, rented or sublet (6)
18 Early Dutch navigator (6)
19 Narrowest part of the torso (5)
22 German river (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Z EQUALS D

HNFZTX ZTJFD'L DJKJFFPYNVA KTXJ HNLM PRJ. FTXJLNXJF PRJ SQFL FMTHF QW PVV IA NLFJVO.



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; **11** Good; **13** Outstanding

Linemaro

Do you believe in exorcism? You've got me possessed

Mindchow

You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late

Joke of the day

Pitbulls are like a gun you can pet

Loop

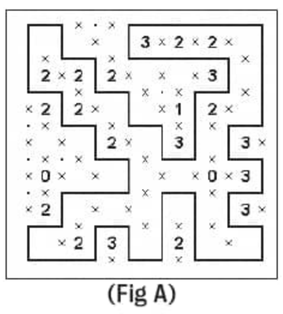
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

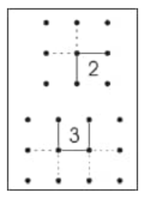
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

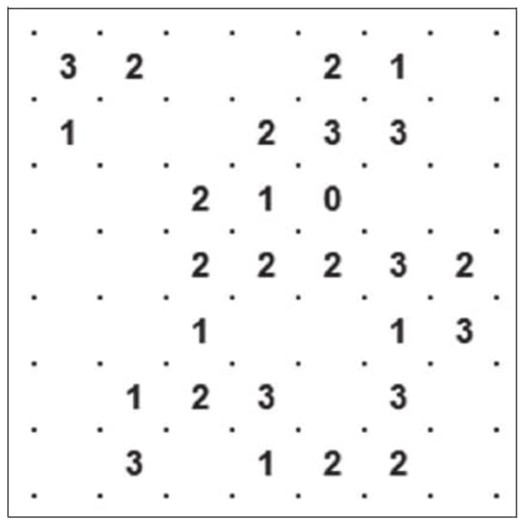
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



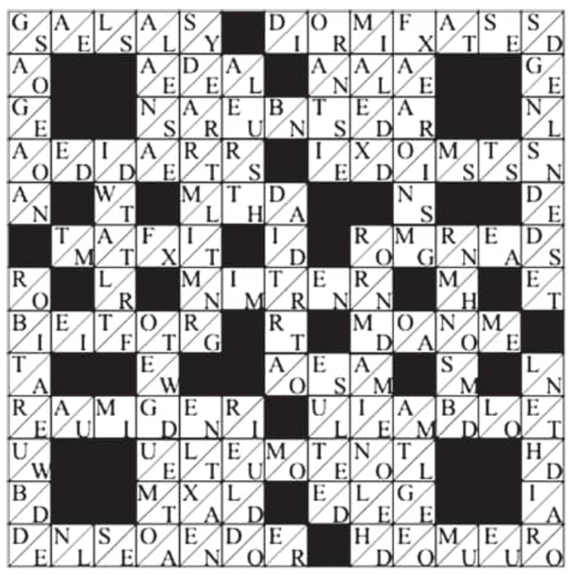
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



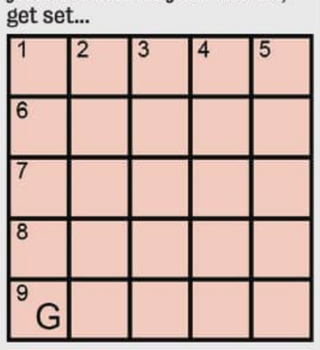
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

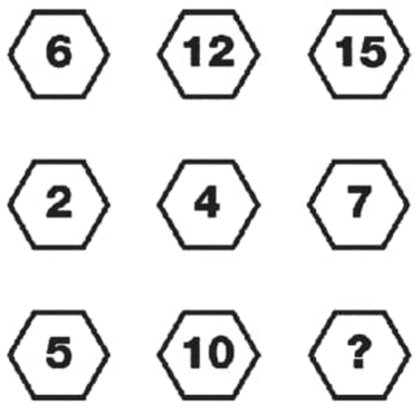
1 Malts; 6 Realm;
7 A mule; 8 Sen me;
9 Goers

DOWN

1 Lungs; 2 Am Leo;
3 Ramee; 4 Elm me;
5 Tsars

Mensapuzzle

What is missing from the last hexagon?



SudokuChallenge

3			7		6			9
	4	6				8	7	
8				4				5
	8	1				6	2	
			8		1			
	2	4				9	1	
4				1				6
	3	7				2	9	
2			6		3			7

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 6

2 2 3 5

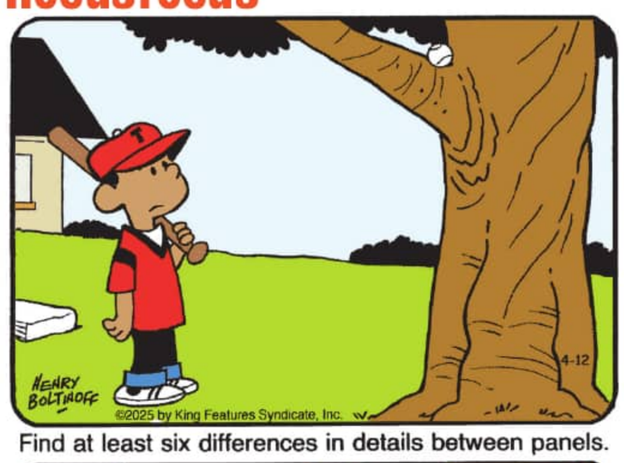
Medium = 2

2 4 6 6

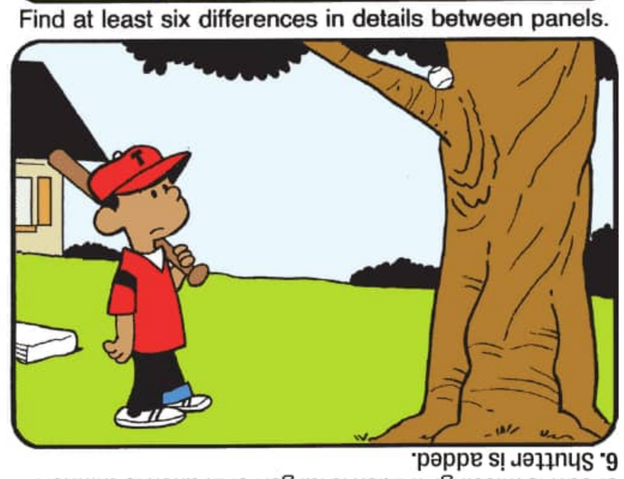
Hard = 38

2 2 4 6

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



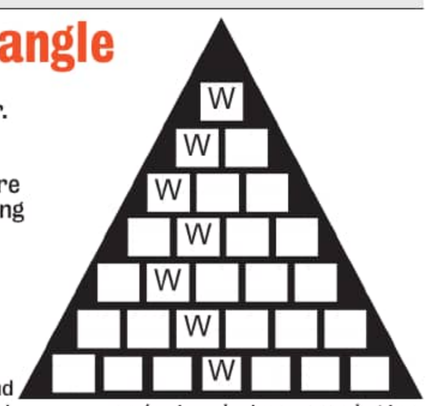
Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Shirt is different. 3. Cuff is missing. 4. Bush is larger. 5. Branch is thinner. 6. Shutter is added.

Riddler

Frank is in seat #1 next to the graphic designer. The osteopath has Leah on their right and Cléo's husband on their left. Ken is seated next to Mylie and directly opposite Leah's boyfriend. The IT specialist is between the female teacher and the accountant. Alex is between the manager and Ken's partner. Challenge: Identify the couples, each person's seat, and their type of employment.

Alpha triangle

1 Compass point
2 West Indies, abbr.
3 Hairpiece
4 Hearty drink
5 Playground fixture
6 Seeding or planting
7 Exhibition

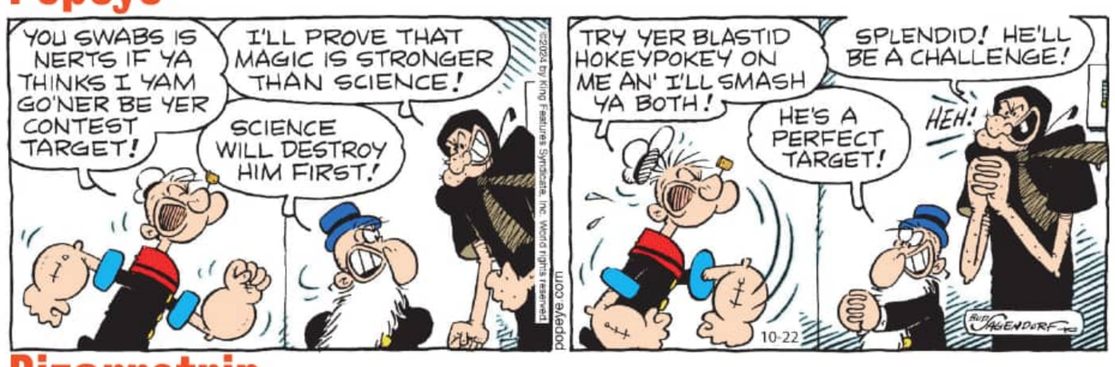


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

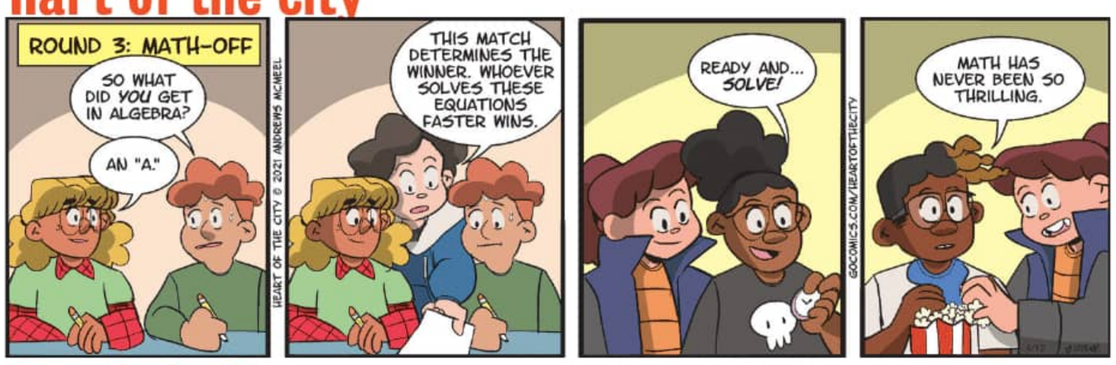

YOU SWABS IS NERTS IF YA THINKS I YAM GO'NER BE YER CONTEST TARGET!
I'LL PROVE THAT MAGIC IS STRONGER THAN SCIENCE!
SCIENCE WILL DESTROY HIM FIRST!
TRY YER BLASTID HOKEYPOKEY ON ME AN' I'LL SMASH YA BOTH!
SPLENDID! HE'LL BE A CHALLENGE!
HE'S A PERFECT TARGET!
HEH!
popeye.com
10-22

Bizarrotrip

It's a six-figure settlement as long as you count the figures after the decimal point.
Wayno & Piraro 4-12-25
Dist. by King Features
©2025 Bizarro Studios
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


ROUND 3: MATH-OFF
SO WHAT DID YOU GET IN ALGEBRA?
AN "A."
THIS MATCH DETERMINES THE WINNER. WHOEVER SOLVES THESE EQUATIONS FASTER WINS.
READY AND... SOLVE!
MATH HAS NEVER BEEN SO THRILLING.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2021 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

ANOTHER SCHOOL BUS RODEO TROPHY!
WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO ADD AN ADDITION TO THE BUS GARAGE JUST TO HOLD ALL OF OUR TROPHIES!
I'LL BAKE SOME BROWNIES TO CELEBRATE!
DON'T RUIN THE MOMENT.
WINNER
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
4-12
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

THAT'S NOT FAIR, EARL —YOU CAN'T HAVE A PET SHNAIL, TOO!!!
AND WHY WOULD YOU NAME HIM "MINI-MOOCH"!?! THAT IS RIDICULOUSH!
OOOH, I THINK HE LIKES YOU.
PURRR.
mutts.com
4-12

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
You'll experience satisfaction as you manage both earnings and expenses well, strengthening your financial footing. With support from siblings and subordinates, your plans will move forward smoothly. A visit to elders or a spiritual place may bring clarity and inner peace.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Your high energy and optimism help you pursue your goals confidently. A cheerful outing with friends or family can elevate your mood. Students are likely to receive good news or progress in academics.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
The day begins with low energy and nervousness, but your confidence returns by afternoon. Avoid impulsive financial or professional decisions. Stay calm in your personal life—especially with your spouse—to prevent small issues from escalating. Lovebirds may enjoy a brief, joyful getaway.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Overspending could strain your budget, so manage money carefully. Be cautious during professional and family conversations. Avoid lending money or making big decisions about property or investments. Stay grounded and focus on your responsibilities.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
A social event may reconnect you with influential contacts, boosting future opportunities. Those in art, fashion, or glamour may feel newly inspired. Students will perform well, and romantic moments await lovebirds.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Expect a busy but productive day. Despite fatigue from work pressure, your commitment remains steady. You'll manage finances sensibly, and your polite behavior will improve relationships with family. A positive message from relatives might uplift your spirits.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Plans may not unfold as expected, leading to some professional frustration. Avoid major financial or relationship decisions today. Couples and lovebirds should steer clear of arguments. Students should avoid shortcuts and focus on steady academic effort.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
The blessings of elders boost your confidence. Trusting your intuition helps in financial and career matters. A spiritual trip with family may bring calm. Control your temper to maintain harmony at home. Students could benefit from divine support.

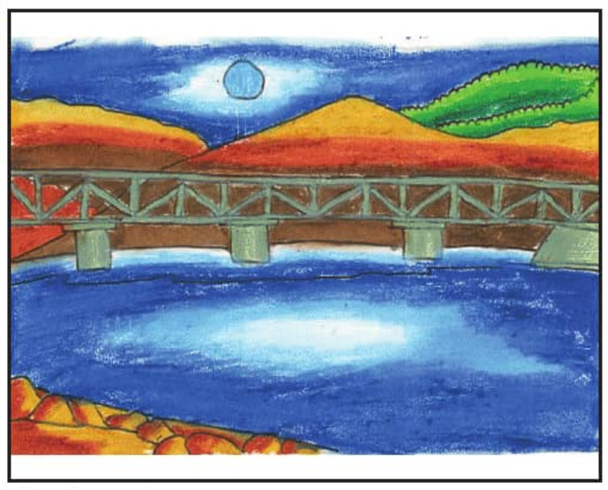
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You'll feel optimistic in the morning, but mood swings in the afternoon may distract you. Work disruptions and minor domestic arguments are likely. Avoid lending money. You may be drawn to spirituality or occult studies for reflection.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
The Moon's presence lifts your spirits. A romantic mood enhances home life, and your calm approach helps you succeed professionally. Strong teamwork from colleagues and business partners supports your progress.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You'll effectively control unnecessary expenses, improving financial stability. Pay attention to your children's health. Singles may see positive developments in marriage prospects. Those in travel, diplomacy, or logistics will perform well. Watch out for digestive issues.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
You may feel more emotional than usual due to the Moon's influence. Avoid new investments, particularly in real estate. Care for your parents' health. Delays at work may test your patience, so stay steady and avoid indecisiveness.

KIDZONE



Utkarrsh, Bengaluru

Purab, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
1- Frank, osteopath, with Myllie, 2- Leah, manager, with Alex, 3- Alex, accountant, with Leah, 4- Cleo, IT specialist, with Ken, 5- Myllie, teacher, with Frank & 6- Ken, graphic designer, with Cleo

RIDDLER
(2^16+2^16)÷(2^8×2^8)=
2^(32/32)=
2^(1) = 2

BULL'S EYE
amend, dame, damn, dean, dune, made, manned, mend, MUNDANE, named, nude, unmade, UNNAMED

FAST FIVE

S	M	A	L	T
L	A	M	E	R
U	L	E	M	A
N	E	M	E	S
G	O	R	E	S

STRIKE OUT

S	A	L	L	Y		D	R	I	F	T
A		E	E	L		A	L	A		E
G		S	A	U	N	T	E	R		N
A	D	D	E	R	S		E	X	I	S
N		W		L	T	D		N		E
M	A	X	I		I		O	G	R	E
O		R		N	I	T	E	R		T
B	E	F	O	G		T		D	O	O
T		E			O	S	A		M	L
R	A	I	D	E	R		L	I	A	B
U		E	L	E	M	E	N	T		H
D		M	A	D		D	E	E		A
E	L	E	A	N	O	R		D	E	M

QUICK

B		P	M		A		L		J	
S	O	M	A	L	I		B	R	E	V
T		R		X		B		N		N
S	H	A	K		E	M	E	R	G	I
E		D		E		Y		T		I
O	D	O	R	O	U	S		C	H	E
E				P		W				E
A	G	I	L	E		R	A	P	T	U
R		E		S		I		D		S
V	A	R	A	N	A	S	I		S	P
D		S		I		Y		M		U
R	E	F	E	R	S		A	P	A	T
S		D		T		R		N		R

MENSA PUZZLE
13. Working in rows, from left to right, double the left hand number to get the middle number, and add 3 to this to get the right hand number.

QUOTE UNCODE
Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes age just shows up all by itself.

SUDOKU

3	5	2	7	8	6	9	4	1
1	4	6	5	3	9	8	7	2
8	7	9	1	4	2	3	6	5
5	8	1	9	7	4	6	2	3
9	6	3	8	2	1	7	5	4
7	2	4	3	6	5	9	1	8
4	9	8	2	1	7	5	3	6
6	3	7	4	5	8	2	9	1
2	1	5	6	9	3	4	8	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
W, Wi, Wig, Swig, Swing, Sowing, Showing.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 - 3 + 2 + 2 = 6
Medium
6 + 6 / 2 - 4 = 2
Hard
4 + 2 x 6 + 2 = 38

LOOP

KAKURO

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